anecdotes and parables. This gives a value to the latter,
though they may be unhistorical. Another peculiarity of
the Rishis' teaching is this. They would not teach their
disciples final truths at once but only by and by, leading them
from stage to stage, as it is not possible to disabuse a pupil*
at one stretch of all his preconceived notions with which he
approaches his teacher. The pupils must be first put on their
trial and the incorrectness or inadequacy of the knowledge
already possessed by them shown by the gradual presenta-
tion of higher ideals. Even now, we find the highest class
- of teachers adopting just this mothod.
That the Rishis held God to be unknowable by the
impure-hsarted, the restless, the thoughtless, the irreverent
and that they led their disciples through a long process
of discipline extending over many years before trying to
instil into them the principles of the divins science, appears
from many a fine anecdote ^nd emphatic utterance scattered
throughout the Upanishads. Thus in the *PyasnopanisJzad,*
we find Rishi *PiRpalada* withholding instruction to six en-
quirers after God until they want through further disciplin-
ary exercises for anoth3r year. In *ihz Chan:iogya,* Satyakama

Jabala is sent out to tend his teacher's cattle, which, not only tests his theological ardour and teadus him to be duti- ful and obedient under the most trying circumstances, but further brings him into direct contact with Nature, and gives him spscial opportunities for cultivating habits of solitary reflection so essential to the knowledge of things divine, so that after a long and rigorous course of apprenticeship, he is enabled to know God with only a little help from his master. Plow much Satyakama appreciated ths value of the discipline administered to him, is shown by his leading his own disciple, Upakoshala Kamalayana, through twelve years of ceremonial and spiritual exercises, though under far less painful circumstances, and letting him acquire the preliminaries of the Science of Brahman by meditating on